

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of April 24, 2002 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanaka (U.S. Pat. No. 5,934,780); and rejected claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-16 of Choi et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,292,296). The rejection of these claims is traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Regarding the nonstatutory double patenting rejection of claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23 in the instant application over claims 1-16 of Choi et al., Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter claimed in the instant application is not fully disclosed in the patent nor is the subject matter covered by the patent because the application and the patent are not claiming common subject matter. However, for the sole purpose of expediting the prosecution of the application, Applicants hereby submit a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the aforementioned double patenting rejection of claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23.

The rejection of claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanaka is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

While claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Applicants respectfully submit that Tanaka, having an issue date of August 10, 1999, was not patented more than one year prior to the effective filing date of the present application, i.e., May 27,

1998. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Tanaka is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Even assuming that Tanaka was available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a polarizer holder supporting the quartz substrate part.” None of the cited references including Tanaka, singly or in combination, teaches or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references.

Independent claim 2 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 2 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a plurality of quartz substrate parts, each quartz part including one or more quartz substrates.” None of the cited references including Tanaka, singly or in combination, teaches or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 2 and claims 3-5 and 7-10 which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Independent claim 11 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 11 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a polarizer holder supporting the quartz substrate part.” None of the cited references including Tanaka, singly or in combination, teaches or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 11 is allowable over the cited references.

Independent claim 12 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 12 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a plurality of quartz substrate parts, each quartz part including one or more quartz substrates.” None of the cited references including Tanaka, singly or in combination, teaches or suggest at least these features of the claimed

invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 12 and claims 13-15 and 17-23 which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner deem that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

11 (AMENDED). A polarizer system, comprising:

a light source for generating a light;

a quartz substrate part comprising a plurality of quartz substrates stacked on top of one another; [and]

a polarizer holder supporting the quartz substrate part; and

means for directing said light onto said quartz substrate part.